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Appl. No . : 09/878,719  
Filed : June 11, 2001

**REMARKS**

Procedural History

Claims 19-24 were pending in the application. By way of the present amendment, the Applicants canceled Claims 19-24 without prejudice and added new Claims 25 and 26. Claims 25 and 26 are pending for consideration.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for courtesies extending during the interview of February 21, 2002, in which a bicycle seat exhibit was shown having a cutout extending from the rear of the seat to approximately the middle of the forward half of the seat. Additionally, the foregoing claims reflect the outcome of the discussion regarding the relevant prior art, namely, the ISCA Plus saddle advertisement, U.S. Pat. No. 594,451 to Wheeler, and U.S. Pat. No. 576,310 to Henderson. As discussed in that interview, Applicant is submitting the foregoing claims that overcome the prior art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests Examiner to withdraw the rejections and allow the newly added claims

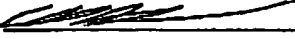
**CONCLUSION**

Applicant respectfully submits that the newly added claims overcome the prior art of record. Should there be any questions or issues that could be resolved via a telephone conversation, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the number shown below. Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: March 27, 2002

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